

Engine Company No. 8, Firehouse
323 Mulberry Street
Baltimore
Baltimore County
Maryland

MD-354

FIABS
MD,
4-BALT,
167-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS
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167-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE MARYLAND	COUNTY BALTIMORE	TOWN OR VICINITY BALTIMORE
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Engine Company No. 8, Firehouse		HABS NO. MD-354
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 323 Mulberry Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1871	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) First firehouse built by the city of Baltimore after it assumed control of the volunteer fire department.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick and cast iron; brick bearing walls with cast iron front on first floor.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Two stories, 3 bay, rectangular.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Cast iron first floor with central opening for engine doorway, flanked by small doorways. The double doors for the engine swung outwards. There were three arched windows on the second floor, each set into an opening with a projecting brick arch. The cornice consisted of 17 brick corbels over which a rather heavy cornice supported by eight large brackets set at irregular intervals. Over this cornice, what appears to be a later cornice consisting of four pieces with a curved parapet wall looms overhead. The tops of the three doorways are aligned. The doorways are separated by square cast-iron engaged columns with molded bases and capitals, and recessed panels. At each end of the first floor are larger engaged columns with circular raised areas containing the number '8' in the recessed panels. Over the cast-iron front is a flat cast iron cornice with a raised central panel carrying "NO 8". This panel continues downward to become the keystone of the arch over the engine doorway.		
PRESENT CONOITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The first steam engine used by Co. 8 was a second-hand engine built by Poole and Hand in 1868 which weighed 6,640 lbs. The company also used a 2-wheeled horse carriage. The company was relocated to the headquarters of Hook and Ladder Co. 10 on December 5, 1912, and the building was disposed of by the city.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Baltimore City Fire Department Records. Forrest, Clarence H. <u>Our Firemen</u> . Balt: Williams and Wilkens Co, 1898.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, Historian, HABS, from reports by John G. Waite, Architect, N.P.S. (Sept. 7 & Aug. 16, 1964).		DATE 3/16/84